



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,198	08/21/2003	Rhonda L. Childress	AUS920020693US1	7111
35525	7590	05/19/2008		
IBM CORP (YA) C/O YEE & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380			EXAMINER INGBERG, TODD D	
			ART UNIT 2193	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 05/19/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ptonotifs@yeeiplaw.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/645,198	Applicant(s) CHLDRESS ET AL.	
	Examiner Todd Ingberg	Art Unit 2193	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/22/08 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1 – 33 have been examined.

Claims 1, 12 and 23 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 has been overcome by a change in Office policy.

Drawings

2. Drawing changes have been accepted.

Admitted Prior Art

3. The following is from pages 1 – 3 of Specification and refers to being in accordance with prior art.

“2. Description of Related Art:

Object-oriented programming (OOP) has emerged as a powerful new programming tool that enables the rapid development and implementation of functionality while permitting the customization and reuse of objects. The Object Management Group (OMG, an international organization for promoting the theory and practice of object-oriented software technology) defines an industry standard architecture for a distributed object computing environment, called the Object Management Architecture (OMA). The OMA provides a conceptual infrastructure upon which all of the OMG's specifications are based.

OMG defines a structure to allow integration of a wide variety of object systems called the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA) . The CORBA model consists of the Object Request Broker (ORB), CORBA services, CORBA facilities and Application Objects. These components make up the primary pieces of CORBA.

A CORBA ORB is a particular type of computer system that provides particular capabilities that are defined by the CORBA specification. In order to function as a CORBA ORB, a computer system must comply with the CORBA specification. Computer systems that do not comply with the CORBA specification for being a CORBA ORB are not classified as CORBA ORBs. These computer systems that do not comply with the CORBA specification for being a CORBA ORB, however, may be coupled to the data processing system as clients and/or servers

A problem may arise in a CORBA environment because the environment is limited by the CORBA specification to being only a three-tier CORBA ORB system. The specification provides for three levels of CORBA ORBs to be coupled together. Other computer systems, such as servers and clients, may also be coupled to one or more of the CORBA ORBs. These other

Art Unit: 2193

computer systems do not make up a level of the CORBA ORB architecture, however. The specification provides for only three levels of CORBA ORBs, and does not permit four levels of CORBA ORBs coupled together in a network.

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating a CORBA data processing system 100 in accordance with the prior art that complies with the CORBA standard. CORBA data processing system 100 includes three separate CORBA networks 101, 103, and 105. The CORBA specification provides for only three tiers of CORBA ORB computer systems. Therefore, each network includes only three levels, or tiers, of CORBA ORB computer systems.

CORBA network 101 includes CORBA ORBs 102, 108, 110, 120, 122, and 124. CORBA network 103 includes CORBA ORBs 104, 112, 114, 126, 128, and 130. And, CORBA network 105 includes CORBA ORBs 106, 116, 118, 132, 134, and 136.

CORBA ORBs 102, 104, and 106 all occupy a first level, or tier. CORBA ORBs 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, and 118 all occupy a second level, which is below the first level. CORBA ORBs 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, and 136 all occupy a third level, which is below the second level. Servers and clients may be, and typically are, coupled to one or more of the CORBA ORBs. For example, servers 138 and 140 are coupled to CORBA ORB 134. Clients 142, 144, and 146 are coupled to server 138.”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 2, 13 and 24 recite the limitation "three tiered CORBA network". The independent claims recite "a four-tier CORBA network". There is insufficient antecedent basis for the "three-tier CORBA network", limitation in the claim.

6. Claims 2, 13 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The limitation of "three-tier CORBA network" is indefinite in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1 – 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art (APA) from the Description of Related Art section of the Specification pages 1 – 3, in view of the commercial product HP OpenView as documented in the 1995 book, Focus on **HP** OpenView.

Claim 1

A method in a data processing system for automatically distributing and installing software file packages throughout a multi-tiered computer architecture CORBA hierarchy, said hierarchy including a four-tier CORBA network that includes a global tier functioning as a CORBA ORB, a hub tier that is below said global tier, a target tier that is below said hub tier, and a gateway tier between the hub tier and the target tier, said method comprising the steps of: receiving, within a global computer system that is located in said global tier, a distribution request to distribute a file package to a target computer system that is located in said target tier; starting, by said global computer system, a distribution process in said hub computer system; distributing said file package and an installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier; automatically distributing said file package and said installation process to said target computer system from said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process; and automatically installing, by said target computer system, said file package utilizing said installation process.

Rejection for Claim 1

APA teaches the multi-tiered network environment in the claimed invention. And HP teaches a Systems Management Platform that is intended to run and support multi-tiered environments (See Global tier – ability to manage more than one Hub – Chapter 12, page 245), Hub Tier – Chapter 12, Gateway Tier – Pages 119 – 123 and Target Tier, pages 35-37 and 179 - 185, (not clearly claimed is Spoke Tier see pages 97-103, the OpenView system on pages 1 and 2 cover the basic functionality of the product special interest is page 2 bullet 5 and bullets on page one, the product provides connection through an Inter Connect Manager see pages 29-31).

Art Unit: 2193

OpenView teaches automatically distributing and installing software file packages (HP, pages 184, Synchronization and Change Orchestration) throughout a multi-tiered computer architecture hierarchy (HP, Supports many topologies pages 210-216, 229-230, 246-250), said hierarchy including a global tier (HP OpenView is a global tier – ability to manage one or more Hubs – see Chapter 12 – page 245), a hub tier (HP, chapter 12 – Hubs) that is below said global tier, and a target tier that is below said hub tier (As per above and HP, pages 2 – 18), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, within a global computer system that is located in said global tier, a distribution request to distribute a file package to a target computer system that is located in said target tier (HP, pages 179 – 182 and Chapter 12 pages 245 – 247 see Figures and pages 255-262); starting, by said global computer system, a distribution process in said hub computer system; distributing said file package and an installation process (HP, pages 182 – Software Management) from said global computer system to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier (HP, Chapter 12); automatically distributing said file package and said installation process to said target computer system from said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process (as per the cited sections above); and automatically installing, by said target computer system, said file package utilizing said installation process (HP, page 181, Target System and page 205, ability to manage software on stations).

It is APA who teaches a multi-tiered environment employing CORBA. And it is HP who teaches a commercial System Management Platform product that supports a plurality of tiers and environments including CORBA (HP, page 273). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine APA and HP, because the efficiency of the product to be able to keep hardware, software and firmware up to date, “The current market success of HP’s OpenView is apparent by the many internetworking vendors who use this network management system as the framework for managing bridges, routers and hubs. OpenView is installed on more than 35,000 networks worldwide, and it is expected to eclipse NetView in 1995, making it the premiere network management system. In addition, key portions of OpenView for the basis of the Open Software Foundations (OSF) Distributed Management Environment (DME). (HP, Preface) and OpenView provides *“Software Distribution and Installation for central network-wide software distribution and installation. These management applications facilitate central monitoring and control of multiple systems which can be located at a central site or distributed among remote sites.”* (OpenView, page 2, bottom of the page).

Claim 2

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

providing a three-tier CORBA network, said CORBA network including a hub CORBA ORB coupled to a second spoke CORBA ORB, and said spoke CORBA ORB being coupled to a gateway CORBA ORB, wherein said hub CORBA ORB occupies said hub tier of said architecture, said spoke CORBA ORB occupies a spoke tier of said architecture, said spoke tier between said hub tier and a gateway tier, and said gateway CORBA ORB occupies said gateway tier, said gateway tier being located between said gateway tier and said target tier; and coupling said global computer system to said three tier CORBA network, said global computer system occupies a top tier of said architecture over said first tier, said global computer system functioning as a CORBA ORB and treating said hub CORBA ORB as a managed node.

(APA as per claim 1 and HP installation in diverse topologies of claim 1).

Claim 3

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

assigning a unique request identifier to said distribution request; and tracking processing of said distribution request as it is processed by said global computer system, said hub computer system, and said target computer system using said unique request identifier. (HP, page 244, SNMP, has unique Identifiers).

Claim 4

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

determining by said global computer system whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, re-attempting said distribution. (HP, page 181, Monitor for success).

Claim 5

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

including a queue within said global computer system for storing distribution requests; in response to receiving said distribution request, placing said distribution request in said queue; and processing a next request from said queue utilizing said global computer system. (HP, Management Functions for Hub, pages 243 – 247, bullets on page 243 – see the ability to download , configure).

Claim 6

The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

determining by said global computer system whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, re-queueing said distribution request by restoring said distribution request in said queue; and said global computer system making another attempt to distribute said distribution request without requiring that said distribution request be resubmitted to said global computer system. (HP, Management Functions for Hub, pages 243 – 247, bullets on page 243).

Claim 7

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

in response to receiving said distribution request within said global computer system, locking, by said global computer system, said hub computer system to prevent said hub computer system from processing other requests while said hub computer system is processing said distribution request. (HP, Management Functions for Hub, pages 243 – 247, bullets on page 243).

Claim 8

Art Unit: 2193

The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of: locking said hub computer system using a unique request identifier that identifies said distribution request. (HP, Management Functions for Hub, pages 243 – 247, bullets on page 243).

Claim 9

The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether said hub computer system is available prior to said global computer system locking said hub computer system; in response to a determination that said hub computer system is unavailable, waiting until said hub computer system becomes available; and in response to a determination that said hub computer system is available, locking said hub computer system. (HP, Management Functions for Hub, pages 243 – 247, bullets on page 243 – see the ability to download , configure).

Claim 10

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

including a plurality of file package requests within said distribution request, each one of said file package requests being a request to either install a particular file package or remove a particular file package; and including in said distribution request an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package. (HP, page 182 remove and install on target).

Claim 11

The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving, within said global computer system that is located in said global tier, a distribution request to distribute a plurality of file package requests to a target computer system that is in said target tier; each one of said file package requests being a request to either install a particular file package on said target or to remove a particular file package from said target; including in said distribution request an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package; starting, by said global computer system, a distribution process in said hub computer system; distributing said plurality of file packages and an installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier; utilizing said distribution process within said hub to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file package from said target computer system; automatically removing, by said target computer system, said particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file; utilizing said distribution process within said hub to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file package requests that are requests to install a particular file package on said target computer system; automatically installing, by said target computer system, said particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to install a particular file; and said removal requests being executed prior to said installation requests. (As per claim 1 and HP, page 182 remove and install on target.)

Claim 12

Art Unit: 2193

A data processing system for automatically distributing and installing software file packages throughout a multi-tiered computer architecture CORBA hierarchy, said hierarchy including a four-tier CORBA network that includes a global tier functioning as a CORBA ORB, a hub tier that is below said global tier, a target tier that is below said hub tier, and a gateway tier between the hub tier and the target tier, said system comprising: a global computer system that is located in said global tier receiving a distribution request to distribute a file package to a target computer system that is located in said target tier; said global computer system starting a distribution process in said hub computer system; said global computer system distributing said file package and an installation process to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier; said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process to automatically distributing said file package and said installation process to said target computer system; and said target computer system automatically installing said file package utilizing said installation process. As per claim 1.

Claim 13

The system according to claim 12, further comprising:

a three-tier CORBA network, said CORBA network including a hub CORBA ORB coupled to a second spoke CORBA ORB, and said spoke CORBA ORB being coupled to a gateway CORBA ORB, wherein said hub CORBA ORB occupies said hub tier of said architecture, said spoke CORBA ORB occupies a spoke tier of said architecture, said spoke tier between said hub tier and a gateway tier, and said gateway CORBA ORB occupies said gateway tier, said gateway tier being located between said gateway tier and said target tier; and said global computer system coupled to said three tier CORBA network, said global computer system occupies a top tier of said architecture over said first tier, said global computer system functioning as a CORBA ORB and treating said hub CORBA ORB as a managed node. As per claim 2.

Claim 14

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: a unique request identifier assigned to said distribution request; and said unique request identifier for tracking processing of said distribution request as it is processed by said global computer system, said hub computer system, and said target computer system. As per claim 3.

Claim 15

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: said global computer system determining whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, said global computer system re-attempting said distribution. As per claim 4.

Claim 16

Art Unit: 2193

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: a queue included within said global computer system for storing distribution requests; in response to receiving said distribution request, said distribution request being placed in said queue; and said global computer system processing a next request from said queue. As per claim 5.

Claim 17

The system according to claim 16, further comprising: said global computer system determining whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, said distribution request being re-queueing said distribution request by restoring said distribution request in said queue; and said global computer system making another attempt to distribute said distribution request without requiring that said distribution request be resubmitted to said global computer system. As per claim 6.

Claim 18

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: in response to receiving said distribution request within said global computer system, said global computer system locking said hub computer system to prevent said hub computer system from processing other requests while said hub computer system is processing said distribution request. As per claim 7.

Claim 19

The system according to claim 18, further comprising: said hub computer system being locked using a unique request identifier that identifies said distribution request. as per claim 8.

Claim 20

The system according to claim 18, further comprising: said global computer system determining whether said hub computer system is available prior to said global computer system locking said hub computer system; in response to a determination that said hub computer system is unavailable, said global computer system waiting until said hub computer system becomes available; and in response to a determination that said hub computer system is available, said global computer system locking said hub computer system. As per claim 9.

Claim 21

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: said distribution request including a plurality of file package requests,-each one of said file package requests being a request to either install a particular file package or remove a particular file package; and said distribution request including an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package. As per claim 10.

Claim 22

The system according to claim 12, further comprising: said global computer system that is located in said global tier receiving a distribution request to distribute a plurality of file package requests to a target computer system that is in said target tier; each one of said file package

Art Unit: 2193

requests being a request to either install a particular file package on said target or to remove a particular file package from said target; said distribution request including an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package;

said global computer system starting a distribution process in said hub computer system;

said global computer system distributing said plurality of file packages and an installation process to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier;

said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process included in said hub computer system to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file package from said target computer system; said target computer system automatically removing said particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file;

said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process within said hub computer system to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file

package requests that are requests to install a particular file package on said target computer system; said target computer system automatically installing said

particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to install a particular file; and said removal requests being executed prior to said installation requests.

As per claim 11.

Claim 23

A computer program product in a recordable-type medium for automatically distributing and installing software file packages throughout a multi-tiered computer

architecture CORBA hierarchy, said hierarchy including a four-tier CORBA network that includes a

global tier function in as a CORBA ORB, a hub tier that is below said global tier, [[and]] a target tier that

is below said hub tier, and a gateway tier between the hub tier and the target tier, said computer program

product comprising:

instruction means for receiving, within a global computer system that is located in said global tier, a distribution request to distribute a file package to a target computer system that is located in said target tier;

instruction means for starting, by said global computer system, a distribution process in said hub computer system;

instruction means for distributing said file package and an installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier;

instruction means for automatically distributing said file package and said installation process to said target computer system from said hub computer system utilizing said distribution process; and

instruction means for automatically installing, by said target computer system, said file package utilizing said installation process. As per claim 1.

Claim 24

Art Unit: 2193

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: a three-tier CORBA network, said CORBA network including a hub CORBA ORB coupled to a second spoke CORBA ORB, and said spoke CORBA ORB being coupled to a gateway CORBA ORB, wherein said hub CORBA ORB occupies said hub tier of said architecture, said spoke CORBA ORB occupies a spoke tier of said architecture, said spoke tier between said hub tier and a gateway tier, and said gateway CORBA ORB occupies said gateway tier, said gateway tier being located between said gateway tier and said target tier; and instruction means for coupling said global computer system to said three-tier CORBA network, said global computer system occupies a top tier of said architecture over said first tier, said global computer system functioning as a CORBA ORB and treating said hub CORBA ORB as a managed node. As per claim 2.

Claim 25

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: instruction means for assigning a unique request identifier to said distribution request; and instruction means for tracking processing of said distribution request as it is processed by said global computer system, said hub computer system, and said target computer system using said unique request identifier. As per claim 3.

Claim 26

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: instruction means for determining by said global computer system whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, instruction means for re-attempting said distribution. As per claim 4.

Claim 27

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: instruction means for including a queue within said global computer system for storing distribution requests; in response to receiving said distribution request, instruction means for placing said distribution request in said queue; and instruction means for processing a next request from said queue utilizing said global computer system. As per claim 5.

Claim 28

The product according to claim 27, further comprising: instruction means for determining by said global computer system whether said distribution of said file package and said installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system was successful; in response to a determination that said distribution was unsuccessful, instruction means for requeueing said distribution request by restoring said distribution request in said queue; and said global computer system making another attempt to distribute said distribution request without requiring that said distribution request be resubmitted to said global computer system. As per claim 6.

Claim 29

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: in response to receiving said distribution request within said global computer system, instruction means for locking, by said global

Art Unit: 2193

computer system, said hub computer system to prevent said hub computer system from processing other requests while said hub computer system is processing said distribution request. As per claim 7.

Claim 30

The product according to claim 29, further comprising: instruction means for locking said hub computer system using a unique request identifier that identifies said distribution request. As per claim 8.

Claim 31

The product according to claim 29, further comprising:

instruction means for determining whether said hub computer system is available prior to said global computer system locking said hub computer system; in response to a determination that said hub computer system is unavailable, instruction means for waiting until said hub computer system becomes available; and in response to a determination that said hub computer system is available, instruction means for locking said hub computer system. As per claim 9.

Claim 32

The product according to claim 23, further comprising: instruction means for including a plurality of file package requests within said distribution request, each one of said file package requests being a request to either install a particular file package or remove a particular file package; and instruction means for including in said distribution request an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package. As per claim 10.

Claim 33

The product according to claim 23, further comprising:

instruction means for receiving, within said global computer system that is located in said global tier, a distribution request to distribute a plurality of file package requests to a target computer system that is in said target tier; each one of said file package requests being a request to either install a particular file package on said target or to remove a particular file package from said target; instruction means for including in said distribution request an installation script for each one of said file requests that is a request to install a particular file package; instruction means for starting, by said global computer system, a distribution process in said hub computer system; instruction means for distributing said plurality of file packages and an installation process from said global computer system to said hub computer system that is located in said hub tier; instruction means for utilizing said distribution process within said hub to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file package from said target computer system; instruction means for automatically removing, by said target computer system, said particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to remove a particular file;

instruction means for utilizing said distribution process within said hub to automatically distribute to said target computer system ones of said file package requests that are requests to install a particular file package on said target computer system; instruction means for

automatically installing, by said target computer system, said particular file for each of said ones of said file package requests that are requests to install a particular file; and said removal requests being executed prior to said installation requests. As per claim 11.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims on January 22, 2008 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Todd Ingberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-3723. The examiner can normally be reached on during the work week..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lewis Bullock can be reached on (571) 272-3759. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Todd Ingberg/
Primary Examiner

TI